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Title: Need to reconstruct the NH - 8 between Vadodara and Surat in Gujarat - laid.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (SURAT): Length of Vadodara-Surat Section of NH No.8 is 156 K.Ms. As this section is a part of NHDP, NHAI is responsible for maintenance and repair of this section. Looking at the density of traffic on this section, NHAI has undertaken this section to make it into six-lane.

During heavy rain in last monsoon, the road was badly damaged. Looking at the situation, the State Government has undertaken to reconstruct this road. NHAI has done patchwork after monsoon of 2006-07 but the road surface is uneven and speed of vehicles has reduced. Earlier, distance of 150 K.Ms. between Vadodara and Surat was covered in 3 hours which has increased now to 5 hours due to bad condition of road.

NHAI has awarded the work of six laning to BOT operator. Financial clause is achieved and State Support Agreement also signed. The work is supposed to be started now. Time limit for completion of the work is 30 months hence it will be completed by year 2010. Also work of six laning has been started.

State Government has received a lot of requests to improve riding of surface of this road at different levels. Being affected by the condition of road, Panoli Industrial Association has also filed writ petition in Gujarat High Court wherein State Government is also a respondent.

If construction is not undertaken immediately, the road condition will aggravate further and will cause a lot of inconvenience.

So, I urge upon the Government to complete the work as early as possible.